

Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group
FINAL: Minutes for October Meeting
10/13/04

Robin Plance Chair
800 NE Oregon Ave., 6:10 to 8:10 PM
Minutes taken by Dorothy Shoemaker

Present at meeting:

Neighborhood Associations:

Robin Plance	(b) (6)	St. Johns
		Chair, Administrative committee coordinator

Environment:

Dorothy Shoemaker	(b) (6)	Sierra Club
		Evaluation committee coordinator, Board Secretary
Rhett Lawrence	rhett@ospirg.org	OSPIRG

At-Large:

Jim Robison	(b) (6)	Citizen
Joe Keating	(b) (6)	Oregon Wildlife Federation
		Education and Outreach coordinator
Jackie Calder	(b) (6)	Citizen

Business:

Steve Gunther	(b) (6)	Progressive Products and Services
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Excused absences:

Neighborhood Associations:

Larry Talbert	(b) (6)	Hi Noon
Peter Laughingwolf	(b) (6)	Cathedral Park

Health:

Jane Haley-Harris	jane@oregon-health.org	Oregon Center for Environmental Health (OCEH)
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Recreation:

Bill Barrett	(b) (6)	Waterfront Org. of Oregon
Raquel Coyote	(b) (6)	Citizen

At-Large:

Bill McCauley	no email, (b) (6)	Citizen
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Environment:

Travis Williams	travis@willamette-riverkeeper.org	Willamette Riverkeeper
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Others present:

Jim Anderson	DEQ	Anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us
Barbara Smith	Lower Willamette Group	Barbara@harrisandsmith.com
Fenix Grange	DEQ	grange.fenix@deq.state.or.us
Chip Humphrey	EPA	humphrey.chip@epa.gov
Kim Cox	City of Portland	kimc@bes.ci.portland.or.us

Bill Egan	Oregon Bass and Panfsih Club	no email
Liz Waddle	DEQ	Anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us
Sue Safford	Port of Portland	saffos@portptld.com
Amanda Guay	DHS/SHINE	Amanda.m.guay@sate.or.us
Aron Borok	Environment International/Tribes	aron.borok@eiltd.net
(b) (6)	Citizen	(b) (6)

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Robin Plance brought meeting to order at 6:10 PM, when a quorum of 7 was finally reached.

Robin thanked everyone who helped at Superfund Field Day. Between 30 and 45 people attended in the pouring rain. Most took the boat tours offered by Willamette Riverkeeper.

MOTION: Accept the minutes from August and September without changes. Jim moved/Joe seconded. 7-0 in favor.

Next meeting: November 10, 2004. Same room, 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Corrections to Agenda: Date of mtg, date of next mtg are incorrect.

Education and Outreach:

Joe reported that he and Jim have not finished the letter and survey we've discussed sending to non-LWG PRPs, the companies which have not signed up to help with the Superfund cleanup, but are implicated by the EPA. Joe brought up the stewardship campaign discussed at the retreat.

Jackie has drafted a good letter, which she sent to Jim and Joe. They will draw on it as they draft a letter. We decided not to send a survey.

ACTION: We agreed to send a letter with the following points:

- Is the company participating in the Portland Harbor cleanup?
- Are they interested in the cleanup?
- What have they done to cleanup the harbor?
- Have they implemented pollution control devices due to the Superfund listing? If so, what?
- Would they participate in a CAG meeting?
- What is the correct contact name and address for the company?

Evaluation Committee:

Sue Safford of the Port of Portland announced that they will be having open houses about their plans for the early action at the Port. The open houses are:

- Dec. 2 5:30-8:30 PM at the Port administration building downtown
- Dec. 11 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the St. Johns Community Center.

Sue distributed the new Port of Portland material. Copies are available from Dorothy Shoemaker.

ACTION: Dorothy will set up a meeting between the evaluation committee and staff from the Port for sometime in December.

Steve asked Chip Humphrey about NFAs, or No Further Action decisions. When they decide not to take further actions, it's a relief to property owners.

A request was made that a CAG annual report be written by the end of December.

ACTION: Steve will email Dorothy the financial/economic part of the report. Dorothy will draft the report and send it to Robin.

Robin asked if members present prefer to have presentations at CAG meetings, or in evaluation committee meetings. The consensus was to have information mostly presented at CAG meetings.

The Schedule of Deliverables for the Superfund was distributed by Judy Smith at a previous meeting. Contact Dorothy or Judy for a copy.

Administration Committee:

Robin hasn't done the paperwork yet to register the CAG. We have no money.

ACTION: Robin will schedule a meeting of the administration committee in December.

MOTION: The CAG will start having its monthly meetings at the City of Portland Water Lab starting in June 2005. Jim moved/Joe seconded. 7-0 agreed.

MOTION: Renew Dorothy as board secretary. Joe moved/Robin seconded. 7-0 agreed.

MOTION: Renew Robin as chair. Joe moved/Jim seconded. 7-0 agreed.

River Renaissance: Kim Cox

There is a new River Renaissance booklet which maps strategy. There will be a public hearing at the City Council offices on November 18th. The document shows decisions that the City of Portland has agreed on.

Robin thought it is missing details and targets. Jim liked the direction toward comprehensive planning that includes environmental concerns.

ACTION: CAG members will look over the booklet, and discuss it by email.

Willamette River Cleanup Authority: Next meeting is in November or December.

DEQ Change of Staff: Fenix is now DEQ state-wide agency toxics coordinator. Liz Waddle has taken on many of her duties, including the computer work. Liz will be posting the CAG minutes on the DEQ website. (The CAG website links to it.)

GASCO early action: Jim Anderson

Jim explained that undissolved tar containing PAHs is being removed from the harbor. It is less than 1/4 acre in size, and one can walk on it. It's spongy, but solid. Tar is beginning to break off from the tar body and flow downstream.

Silt curtains may be put up before they cleanup the tar. However, silt curtains may not work because the tar is heavy. They could also put up a sheet pile wall to make a coffer dam, and dewater the area. Dewatering is more expensive, but more effective.

The cleanup will be done this in the winter fish window or next summer's fish window. Fish windows are the times that fish populations are highest and taking samples is less dangerous for the fish.

Northwest Natural had wanted to cap the tar, and leave it there. Current plans call for removing the tar body, and then dredging.

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Schnitzer is doing maintenance dredging at the end of the international slip.

ACTION: Robin will ask the Army Corps of Engineers to present at the November CAG meeting.

Robin asked Bill from the Bass and Panfish Club to present at a CAG meeting soon. They will be having elections, and then we can arrange a speaker. Robin also asked Bill if they are interested in assigning a member to the CAG.

Harley, the contractor from the McCormick and Baxter site, did not attend the CAG meeting although he was expected.

ACTION: Robin will contact Harley again.

Steve took issue with Jim Anderson, that the GASCO cleanup was not happening quickly enough. Jim explained that they had to do a thorough study first.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM by Robin Plance.